

## Understanding The Word Love 8-Step Project-Based Lesson Plan

**Objective:** Participants will delve into the four distinct Biblical meanings of love—Agape, Eros, Philia, and Storge—to understand their implications and applications within their personal lives and communities. Through a STEAMS (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics, and Social Studies) approach, students will engage in activities that uncover the depth and breadth of these concepts, applying a comprehensive understanding of love's role in fostering healthy relationships and communities.

### Round Table

❖ **Opening Discussion:**

- What does love mean to you, and how do these definitions align or differ from those found in the Bible?
- **Purpose:** To initiate an open discussion on the various interpretations of love, setting the stage for a deeper exploration of its Biblical meanings.

- ❖ **Materials:** Biblical texts referencing the four types of love, scholarly articles on theological interpretations, and contemporary writings on love's role in society.

### Reflection Point

❖ **Discussion Questions:**

- How does the four different types of love influence our relationships and societal interactions?
- **Journal prompt:** How can understanding the four forms of love enhance our interactions and community bonds?

## Knowledge Setting

### Science (S): The Biology of Love

- ❖ **Objective:** Examine how love impacts the human body and mind from a biological and psychological perspective.
- ❖ **Activity:** Study the effects of love-related hormones like oxytocin and dopamine.
- ❖ **Scripture:** Proverbs 17:17- "A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity."
- ❖ **Reflection:** Discuss how these biological mechanisms reflect the Biblical understanding of **Philia** (brotherly love) and its necessity for human connection and resilience.

### Technology (T): Digital Communication in Relationships

- ❖ **Objective:** Investigate how digital technologies affect modern relationships, focusing on maintaining long-distance friendships and romantic relationships.
- ❖ **Activity:** Analyze the effectiveness of various communication platforms in sustaining relationships.
- ❖ **Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 - "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."
- ❖ **Reflection:** Apply this scripture to understand how technology should be used to nurture relationships that embody patience and kindness. How

	<p>can we use these types of tools to nurture <b>Storge</b> (family) love.</p>
<p><b>Engineering (E): Technological Solutions for Loving Communication</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Understand how engineered tools allow for effective living that helps to facilitate love (e.g. seat belt, headphones, etc.)</li> <li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Research apps or digital platforms that help people practice Biblical principles of love through reminders, daily verses, interactive content, or communication tools designed to enhance understanding and empathy among users.</li> <li>❖ <b>Scripture:</b> Ephesians 4:16 - "From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." (<b>Storge</b>)</li> <li>❖ <b>Reflection:</b> Understand how experiencing love through different instruments plays an intricate role in life, acting as a joint that keeps the body of Christ.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Arts (A): Artistic Expressions of Love</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Use art to explore and express the four types of love, particularly focusing on how love can be portrayed visually and emotionally through art</li> <li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Study a painting that depicts scenes of Biblical love.</li> <li>❖ <b>Scripture:</b> Song of Solomon 8:6-7- "Place me like a seal over your heart, like a seal on your arm; for love is as strong as death, its jealousy [a] unyielding as the grave. It burns like blazing fire, like a mighty flame. Many waters cannot quench love; rivers</li> </ul>

	<p>cannot sweep it away. If one were to give all the wealth of one's house for love, it would be utterly scorned.”</p> <p><b>(Eros)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Reflect:</b> Explore how this intense emotional connection can be depicted in art, representing Eros.</li></ul>
<p><b>Mathematics (M): Statistical Analysis of Community Love Dynamics</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ <b>Objective:</b> Understand how economic policies such as housing affordability and tax incentives influence community relationships and support structures.</li><li>❖ <b>Activity:</b> Examine how housing affordability, tax incentives, and demographic factors such as marital status and family size impact community relationships and expressions of love.</li><li>❖ <b>Scripture:</b> 1 Corinthians 12:22-26- “On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.” <b>(Agape)</b></li><li>❖ <b>Reflection:</b> Understand how love plays a role in everyday order and day-to-day living.</li></ul>

**Social Justice (SS): The Cultural Impact of Biblical Love**

- ❖ **Objective:** Investigate how the different types of love have influenced societal norms and relationships historically.
- ❖ **Activity:** Conduct a comparative analysis of how different cultures have interpreted and integrated these Biblical concepts into their societal norms over the centuries.
- ❖ **Scripture:** Romans 12:10 - "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves."
- ❖ **Reflect:** Analyze how historical shifts in societal structures have influenced the practice and perception of brotherly love (**Philia**).

<p><b>Progress Map for Project Delivery</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Week 1: Project Proposal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students create a written proposal outlining the focus of their project and community benefit.</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>Week 2: Project Approval and Community Engagement Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students submit their proposals and outline how their work will positively impact the community, ensuring alignment with the project's learning objectives and addressing real-world needs.</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>Week 3: Research Progress Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students conduct research and gather data related to their chosen focus area.</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>Week 4: Draft of Final Project</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Students compile their findings into a draft report or presentation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>❖ <b>Week 5: Final Project Refinement and Approval for Implementation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Final feedback is provided, and the projects are presented at a community event involving local leaders and stakeholders.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Science (S): The Biology of Love</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Students conduct a survey to observe the physiological effects of positive social interactions on stress levels using stress assessment questionnaires. Analyze how expressions of Philia (brotherly love) and Agape (unconditional love) can reduce stress and improve mental health. Use Proverbs 17:17 to discuss insights of how love impacts health.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Technology (T): Digital Communication in Relationships</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Create a detailed infographic that explains a platform that facilitates maintaining and strengthening relationships. This platform should include features like reminder systems for important dates, customizable messaging templates to express affection or apologies, and interactive relationship-building games. Students should assess the platform's impact on relationship quality among trial users, integrating insights from 1 Corinthians 13 on the qualities of love.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Engineering (E): Technological Solutions for Loving Communication</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Design timeline of love driven devices that help perform acts of kindness, encouraging the practice of Agape and Philia. Reflections on its usage would be connected to Ephesians 4:16, discussing how each act of love helps to build up the community.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Arts (A): Artistic Expressions of Love</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Students create a mixed-media art project that visualizes the different types of love. Each section of the installation should represent Agape, Philia, Storge, and Eros using different materials and sensory experiences (visual art, soundscapes, tactile materials). The project should be guided by the passionate descriptions of love found in Song of Solomon 8:6-7, illustrating the intensity of Eros.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Mathematics (M): Statistical Analysis of Community Love Dynamics</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Draft a survey data on the community regarding the perceptions and expressions of the four types of love. Focus on how these perceptions correlate with demographic factors like age, marital status, and community involvement. Findings should be discussed in light of 1 Corinthians 12:22-26, emphasizing how each member of the community, regardless of their perceived value, contributes to the overall health of the community.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Social Justice (SS): The Cultural Impact of Biblical Love</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Project Example:</b> Create a mock Q&amp;A on the influence of the four types of love on societal structures and norms over different periods and cultures. Participants should prepare a case showcasing examples from various historical contexts where these types of love influenced laws, social norms, or major historical events, reflecting on Romans 12:10 to discuss the enduring relevance of brotherly love in social cohesion.</li> </ul>

**Community Involvement**

- ❖ **Objective:** Students will explore how different forms of love (Agape, Philia, Storge, Eros) have been implemented in their day-to-day life.
- ❖ **Activity:** Plan a panel event that allows for dialogue regarding project details and results.

**Assessment**



- ❖ **Objective:** Evaluate the project's impact on understanding of the four types of love
- ❖ **Methods:** Feedback from facilitator and participants.

### Feedback Loop

- ❖ **Activity:** Complete journal prompt to understand new or elaborated perspective on love.
- ❖ **Journal Prompt:**
  - Reflect on how the four types of love can be seen throughout your day-to-day life and what areas of life need improvement in regards to more love.

### Resume Integration

- ❖ Assist participants in drafting applicable experience that translates to transferable skill sets, such as research, surveying, and event planning.

For more 8-Step Project-Based Lesson Plans check out our website at  
<https://www.steamsbiblestudy.com/>

For all inquiries, please email **[support@steamsbiblestudy.com](mailto:support@steamsbiblestudy.com)**

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